

REMARKS

Claims 1-36 are pending in the patent application. Claims 1-36 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. New claims 37-40 have been added. The specification has been amended. No new matter has been added by this response.

In the Office Action, the specification was objected to based on several informalities. Applicants have amended the specification to remove the informalities.

Claim 26 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite because the phrase “the mechanical structure” in line 2 has insufficient antecedent basis.

Applicants have amended claim 26 to depend from claim 24 to overcome this rejection.

Claims 1-3, 6-8 and 12-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and claims 4, 5, 10, 11, 17 and 18-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Applicants have cancelled claims 1-8, 10-13 and 17-36 to place the application in condition for allowance.

Claims 9 and 14-16 were objected to but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants have rewritten claim 9 as new claim 37. New claim 38 includes the limitations of independent claim 1, dependent claim 12, dependent claim 13 and objected to claim 14. Claims 15 and 16 have been rewritten as new claims 39 and 40, respectively.

In light of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that new claims 37-40 are patentable and non-obvious over the art of record because the cited art does not disclose, teach or suggest the subject matter of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that claims 37-40 be deemed allowable at this time and that a timely notice of allowance be issued in this case.

In view of the aforesaid, the Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: 6/1/06

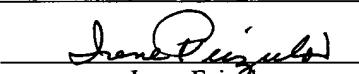
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